

Message Text

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TAGS: OEXC (RATZENBOECK, DR. JOSEF, JAEGER, BETRAM)

FY-76 IV PROGRAM

REF: A-245 JULY 3, 1975, 1975 STATE 253146, 1975 STATE 290843

1. DR. JOSEF RATZENBOECK AND BERTRAM JAEGER WERE NOMINATED ON THE FY-76 IVP PANEL SUBMITTED IN REFAIR AND APPROVED BY REFTELS. RATZENBOECK AND JAEGER WILL TRAVEL TOGETHER AND ARRIVE WASHDC MONDAY, APRIL 5, 1976 FOR A 22 DAY STAY; DETAILED ETA FOLLOWS.

2. THE GRANTEES WOULD APPRECIATE TOURING THE UNITED STATES TOGETHER. THEY BELONG TO THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY (AUSTRIAN PEOPLE'S PARTY). BOTH HOLD RESPONSIBLE POSITIONS IN AUSTRIAN PROVINCES (UPPER AUSTRIA AND VORARLBERG), ARE OF THE SAME AGE AND HAVE THE SAME BASIC INTERESTS AS FAR AS THEIR VISIT TO THE U.S. IS CONCERNED. ALSO, THE GRANTEES SEEM TO BE MORE INTERESTED IN GETTING AN OVER-VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES THAN ENGAGING IN DISCUSSIONS ON SPECIALIZED SUBJECT. SMALL VARIATIONS IN PROGRAM IN WASHDC OR SOME MAJOR STOPOVERS COULD BE ARRANGED TO MEET THE GRANTEES' INDIVIDUAL INTERESTS (CULTURAL FOR RATZENBOECK AND EMPLOYEE-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS FOR JAEGER). AN ESCORT INTERPRETER WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THE ENTIRE PERIOD OF STAY, AS THE GRANTEES' KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH IS MINIMAL.

3. A FIRST PROGRAM SESSION WAS HELD WITH RATZENBOECK; JAEGER COULD NOT ATTEND BUT WILL COME TO VIENNA BY END UNCLASSIFIED

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OF FEBRUARY AND A SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS WILL

FOLLOW. FOLLOWING ARE BASIC PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS AS OUTLINED BY RATZENBOECK UPON PREVIOUS AGREEMENT WITH JAEGER:

POLITICAL: VISITS TO POLITICAL PARTIES HEADQUARTERS; OBSERVATION OF ELECTION CAMPAIGN ON ALL LEVELS;

ECONOMIC: DISCUSSIONS OF AMERICAN ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (INFLATION, UNEMPLOYMENT); TO VISIT WALLSTREET AND LEARN ABOUT THE STOCKMARKET; VISIT TO THE WORLD BANK

ADMINISTRATION: DISCUSS FEDERAL-STATE RELATIONS; VISIT TO A STATE CAPITAL; DISCUSS ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS IN A MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT (TAXES, FINANCING, INTERRELATIONS OF STATE AND MUNICIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES)

CULTURAL: LINCOLN AND JFK CENTERS; THE SMITHSONIAN; VISIT TO AN INDIAN RESERVATION; BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES

OTHER: HOME HOSPITALITY WELCOME, COULD INCLUDE WEEKEND VISIT TO A LARGE FARM; VISITS TO NATIONAL PARKS

RATZENBOECK'S INDIVIDUAL CULTURAL INTERESTS: MUSEUMS, GALLERIES, ART AND RECREATION CENTERS, BRONX BOTANICAL GARDEN, A ZOO, PREHISTORIC EXCAVATIONS.

4. POST COMMENTS OM RATZENBOECK'S PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS: IN ADDITION TO BEING AN EXTREMELY KNOWLEDGABLE POLITICIAN, RATZENBOECK HWS RESPONSIBILITY FOR, AND AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN, THE CULTURAL LIFE OF HIS PROVINCE OF UPPER AUSTRIA. THE EMBASSY WOULD HOPE THAT HIS PROGRAM WOULD BE DESIGNED TO EMPHASIZE THE POLITICAL VITALITY OF THE UNITED STWTZS BOTH THROUGH EXPOSURE TO POLITICAL PARTY ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITY AND THROUGH CONTACT WITH STWTE, MUNICIPAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENT. A SECONDARY EMPHASIS ON THE QUALITY OF AMERICAN CULTURAL LIFE IS IMPORTANT. IN THE PROGRAM SESSION RATZENBOECK IMPLIED THAT SUCH QUALITY WAS LACKING. CERTAINLY, EXPOSURE TO CONCERTS AT THE KENNEDY AND LINCOLN CENTERS ARE NECESSARY, AS ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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VISITS TO MOMA, THE METROPOLITAN AND THE HIRSHORN; BUT THE EMBASSY WOULD HOPE THAT RATZENBOECK WOULD BE EXPOSED TO THE PHILOSOPHY AND WORK OF THE NATIONMAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS, SMITHSONIAN ASSOCIATES, AND A STATE ART COUNCIL AS WELL.

CAUTIONARY NOTE: RATZENBOECK IS A VERY EXPERIENCED WORLD TRAVELLER WHOSE HAUNTS..NEPAL, BURMA, KENYA ETC. SUGGEST A TASTE FOR THE EXOTIC. IN THE PROGRAM

SESSION IT WAS NECESSARY TO DISCOURAGE HIM FROM
ALASKA AND HAWAII AND GUIDE THE TREND OF CONVER-
SATION FROM PRE-HISTORIC DIGS AND BOTANICAL GARDENS
TO HIS PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS.

5. NO DIFFICULTIES RE VISA ELIGIBILTIY ANTICIPATED.BUCHANAN

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